A Rational and Useful

ACCOUNT

OF THE

Venereal Disease:

WITH

Observations on the *Nature*, *Symptoms*, and *Cure*, and the bad Consequences that attend by ill Management; with proper Admonitions; recommended as a Friendly Instruction to all Persons who do, or may, labour under this Misfortune.

ALSO

A short Enquiry into Old GLEETS, and other *Weaknesses*; and the Reason why they are so seldom cur'd: With the Author's Method of Cure.

To which are added,

Some Hints on the *Practical Scheme*, the Methods and Medicines therein expos'd, and the gross Impositions justly detected.

WITH

An Account of *Specificks*; the Use and Abuse of the *Name*, and how it covers *Ignorance* and a *Cheat*.

The Eighth Edition, corrected, with Additions.

By JOSEPH CAM, M.D.

Evasti? credo metues, doctusque cavebis
Quæres quando iterum paveas, iterumque perire
Possis, & toties servus! Horat.
Principiis obsta. Ovid.

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MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

TO THE READER.

IN the First Edition of this ſmall Treatiſe, I gave a ſhort Account of the Pretenſions I had to the Buſineſs I now follow: And as many Perſons in this City have become Great Men from ſuch a Profeſſion; nor is it difficult to mention ſeveral at this Juncture who deſervedly are reputed Men of Sound Judgment; I ſhall wave all farther Accounts of that Nature, and conſequently ſpurn at any invidious Calumnies, which ſome baſe deſigning Reptiles have heretofore loaded me with.

I cannot but hope this Book has open'd the Eyes of many Perſons, who have been deceiv'd by too credulous a

Temper, into Expences and Danger. I have in this Edition hinted at some Cases and Observations on this Disease, which are sufficiently convincing I am not out in my Conjectures; more I have reserv'd behind, lest the Enlargements should require a greater Price: In short, since a considerable Number has been dispos'd of, in so small a Compass of Time, and since the Demand for them has of late increased, I have Reason to hope the Practice may again be brought out of the designing Crowd, into its regular Channel.

Thrice happy they who fall into the Hands of Judicious Men.

How many Fathers have entail'd Misery on their Progeny from ill-cured Poxes! *But 'tis not convenient to appear too open in this Affair, and therefore I shall desist from Particulars; only this I may safely remark, that the* Venereal Disease *is with great Difficulty*

culty cur'd on Persons whose Parents had fix'd a Taint in their Blood in their Mothers Wombs; and Patience is requir'd, both on the part of the Physician and the Patient, when such have the Misfortune to be seiz'd.

It can't be suppos'd I design'd in this small Performance to give a large Body of Prescripts *for the instructing of Others how to cure this Disease; my Aim was rather to kindle in my Readers a Flame, to consume the Intrigues of some* Traders *in this Malady; however proper I may think the converting it into a Prelude to a larger Volume, when I shall perceive any critical Circumstances to demand it.*

Since the Publication of this Work, I find I have Reason to repent me, that I had not done myself Justice somewhat earlier; for my Patients are not deceived, as will appear in the Close; and I am happy enough, since I can gratify myself with the pleasing Reflection of having

having been instrumental in serving Mankind.

This Business is now become a Refuge to every little Bankrupt, who at first Appearance glares in borrow'd *Lays, and blinds the Unthinking Populace into their Ruin; and when the Spring of all their Misfortunes is forgot, they are believ'd to fall Victims to an honest and a different Disease.*

I have pursu'd my Design in this Edition, to wit, the Discovery of farther Collusions and Impositions upon the Publick; but I shall leave the Reader to consult the Additions *at the end of the Book, for his Instructions and Insight into them: I cannot however pass over so barefac'd an Effrontery as is this* Arthritick Tincture; *surely the Publisher designs to persuade Mankind into a Belief, That* he can chime all the Notes upon one Bell: *Happy Boldness! and lucky Patients! Had there been some other* Tincture, (*and*

guised *he*

he might have pick'd out Numbers of different kinds) some Pretence might have been fram'd; but to cry up the famous Elixir *one Day for the* Venereal Disease, *and, because it serves his turn, to cry up the same* individual Tincture *for the* Gout *another Day, is like the* Jingle on Tobacco. *So that I do not despair of his following my Advice given in my first Edition of this Book. And as to his Treatise on* Canary-Birds, *that should be reprinted, because its Use is extensive.*

If I have not divulg'd my Secrets *in this Edition, I design in some folowing ones to publish 'em, because then the World will both judge better of my Abilities, and of my good Intentions towards the Publick.*

My Perusers will be at some farther Expence for this Edition, than for the former; but the Additions are many, and such as, I hope, will recompense.

To the Reader.

I have taken the Freedom to add some few Cases which have happen'd lately to fall under my Hands, where the Reader will see perhaps his own Misfortune as in a Glass; and I the rather have done this, that it may appear I can Act as well as Speak.

I have also added some few Remarkables on the GOUT; *as Occasional Hints to a farther Design; which I reserve till my leisure Hours.*

Vouchers *with me shall always be look'd on with an indifferent Eye; for Mankind to be subject to Vice, is a grievous Curse entail'd upon 'em; to suffer Sickness from Sin committed, is great Misery; to communicate this Misfortune to one (tho' their Deliverer) is Occasion of Shame and Confusion; but to publish one's Mischance to the whole World, to point out their Abodes, and reveal their Names, is such a Complex of Villany, that, believe me, Readers, tho' it hath been often propos'd, and even de-*

sir'd

ſir'd of me for my Benefit, I ſcorn to accept of ſo baſe and low a Condeſcenſion: For my part, I can hardly think any Motive but Want of Buſineſs ſhould induce a Man to ſuch a mean Acceptance, or any thing but meer Poverty (as appears too plainly by ſeveral of Mr. Tanner's Vouchers) *prevail for ſuch a Compliance.*

Here I had clos'd my Preface, as formerly; but by an odd Accident meeting with the following Letter, which I keep by me, I thought fit to inſert it, in order to acquaint the World how uneaſy genteel Reproofs ſit upon a Perſon, who, in his Fifth Edition, perſiſted in his groundleſs Scandals, and utter'd the deepeſt Calumnies. That unjuſt Treatment manet alta mente repoſtum.

The LETTER was mark'd to my Hand for the Preſs by the ingenious Author, and is *verbatim* as follows:

WHenever Dr. *Cam*'s Book is advertis'd, I desire to have no Advertisement in the Paper *that* Day. As for his *Electuarium Mirabile*, I have no Objection against it, nor would not have against being Advertis'd the same Day with his Book, if it were for those *malicious injurious* Lashes he *unjustly* gives me in: So that whenever those are omitted, I shall have no Objection against his Book neither, nor any thing else he shall publish without Injury to his Neighbour, and without endeavouring to build his own Edifice upon the Calumny and Detraction *(unthinkingly)* cast on another, whose Pen and Abilities will not knock under to any thing ever as yet publish'd by him. What he may hereafter publish, perhaps, may have more Influence. But nevertheless, I wish him very well,

and

and I believe he would wish better to himself, if he let his Neighbours alone.

I am,

SIR,

Your very humble Servant,

ANODYNE NECKLACE.

Had the Author of the Scheme *any Title to dictate his Sentiments on Diseases to the World; had his Education ever been pointed towards Physick; had he been made a* Graduate *or a* Freeman *in Physick, or Surgery, his Mistakes would have been carefully conceal'd: But whereas Divinity and Physick have very different Objects, and Avarice only was the first Handle for his applying to Writing and Advertising, so he writes what he has no*

Knowledge of, and gets what he has no Title to. Lashes then are his Deserts; 'tis the Duty of every honest Man to advise his Friend to avoid Imposition and Collusion: The Author of The Seven Useful Discourses *has as much Title to write on Diseases, as he has to pronounce Sentence upon the Bench at* Westminster; *and to be plain with him, acts his Part in that Profession with the same Skill as he would in* this. *I hope the Reader will give me Credit for this Assertion, till it be judg'd proper to descend to Particulars, when I shall convince the World of the Fallacy and inconsistent Jargon that Pretender makes use of upon all Occasions; his Terms are ill adapted, his Sentiments are wide, his Judgment is erroneous, his Writing a Jingle, and the Whole an ill-fram'd Patch-work, if it can deserve the Name of any Coherence at all. As for his hasty Determination in his own Favour, and*

telling

telling us he is ſure his Performances are of a ſuperior Nature to mine; this is, as if an ignorant Cenſor *ſhould give his own Works the Teſt of Approbation, inſtead of thoſe of others: And ſhould we expoſe all our Productions to the World to paſs Judgment for us, I am afraid he would be of* Lazarus Baif's *Opinion, who when adviſ'd by a Friend to reviſe his Works, he anſwer'd,* Oh, Sir, do you think a Father, to put his Children in a better Condition, would take Pleaſure in breaking their Legs and Arms? *For my part, I declare, I have acted ſincerely, and am ſo modeſt in the Opinion of myſelf, that if I am fairly adviſ'd of any Miſtake in the Performance, the next Edition ſhall be the better for it. But, Sir, had you either the Knowledge in Anatomy, in Medicines, or in the Methods of Cure, you would have avoided ſuch fulſom, obſolete, uncouth, improper Expreſſions; you would have*

known how to have expreſs'd yourſelf in juſt Terms; but as the Scheme *and your other wonderful Performances are ſet forth in their Dreſs at preſent, all that know Phyſick are utter Strangers to your Meaning; for what Phyſician can find any Meaning where there is none? So that we may ſay of your little Works, as* Virgil *ſaid heretofore of as excellent a Poet as you are a Writer;*

Qui Bavium non odit, amet tua carmina, Mævi.

A Rational
ACCOUNT
OF THE
Venereal Diſeaſe, &c.

CHAP. I.

Of the Diſeaſe in general.

THE Value each Perſon ought to put upon himſelf, ſhould make him ſo induſtrious, as to diſcover Fraud from Sincerity, Chicane from Truth, and Colluſion from Good-will. I ſay, each Perſon ought to labour from his Infancy

Infancy to extricate himſelf from the Deſigns and Traps laid for him: But alas! we come to Maturity, we grow Old, and in ſome Affairs we are Blind, and continue ſo for ever. I know not, whether this Blindneſs be in any thing more common, than it is in the Art of Phyſick; in this, Men paſs Judgment by the Force of their Affections, and not their Judging Faculty: This Man we like, his Converſation is agreeable, his Comportment is genteel, his Air is modiſh, he is obliging, and in ſhort we love the Perſon; but let him be throughly ſearch'd, his Buſineſs has been to ſtudy Men, not the dead Letter. Thus ſometimes ſo high runs Affection, we even believe the Perſon Ignorant, but Charity and Love cover his Defects. I crave no Man's Affection, in order to entrap him; this little Paper-Book I have preſented to the Publick, is the Reſult of a *continued Succeſs for near a quarter of a Century*, in the Cure of the *Venereal Diſeaſe*, in its whole Extent.

I fancy it may be no great Honour to aſſume to myſelf *an Air of Knowledge* in this Diſtemper, becauſe the Weakeſt of Mortals may in that time acquire to himſelf a competent Obſervation on the common Symptoms, when his Application has

has been bounded and limited to that Diſtemper chiefly. Let my Knowledge be to what Degree it can; ſuch has been my Caſe, that I have confined myſelf to the Conſideration of this Diſeaſe for the moſt part, have made Obſervations ſuitable to the time I have practiſed; and I think I have built, upon what I have read, a large Structure, and will be bold to ſay, (without a Breach of Modeſty) *If Authors have diſcovered no more of this Diſeaſe than what they have publiſh'd, I can range ſomewhat farther than they have done, and without much Trouble to myſelf.* By the Word *Authors*, I abſtract from *Bills of Fare*, ſuch as the *Practical Scheme*, a Rhapſody of bold Promiſes, incoherent (and ſandy) Matter, mask'd under the fulſome Pretext of following a Philoſophy, I am well apprized, the Scribbler has never enter'd the Threſhold of.

The Publick may here expect I ſhould deſcend to Particulars they have never been told of; ſo I could; but my Buſineſs at preſent is, an Appeal to the World how fairly I have dealt with them in the Publications I have made; and whether I am under the Incapacity ſome vile deſigning *Empiricks* (for ſo I muſt call ſuch of my Adverſaries, as I have hitherto

ſpurn'd who have never been dignified with the Cap) have branded all their Fellow-Advertiſers with, for the ſake of Gain.

I think it will be needleſs to let the World into the Secret of the Manner of Infection; this would be to trifle like the *Scheme-maker*; who, in his Pamphlet, pretends to *clinch that Nail, which others had but touch'd.* My Deſign is to relate Facts I am well aſſured of, confirm'd with Truth, ripen'd by Experience into a *certain Method*, which I am ſure is far from ſmelling of the Quack. I need no Atteſtation to what I ſhall advance, nor is it neceſſary to court any *Chamberlen* for what I affirm; nor do I think it reaſonable, any Gentleman of a Faculty ſhould proſtitute his Name to my Account; nor do I deſign to work by Colluſion: No Sirs, I know no Neceſſity I am under for ſuch a crafty Procedure.

As ſoon as a Perſon has convers'd with any one Infected, he commences alſo Unfortunate; the Infection being Local, the Part of Contact is the Seat of the Diſeaſe at firſt, and by *Neglect is daily more* propagated:

----*Unleſs*

------ *Unleſs ſtrong Nature ſtill*
Exerts itſelf, and then throws off the Ill.

But how ſeldom this happens in our Iſle, I leave it to any indifferently skill'd to pronounce for me.

The Combatants untainted ſuffer by the Friction; the Torch is kindled at the Fire, which coſts much Pains to extinguiſh.

If the *Vagina* is infected with Ulcers, their Linnen muſt be ſtain'd Greeniſh or Yellowiſh; and they ſcarce can bear the Coition without a wry Brow: As for the Males, they alſo are eaſily diſcover'd, if warily ey'd; and 'twould be amazing to me, to find ſo many ſad Examples, if Paſſion did not blind our Conſcience and our Reaſon. *I cou'd give Inſtances how to diſcover any Degree of Infection*, and conſequently how to guard Mortals from it; *Nay, how to know whether Artifice were not uſed, to patch up a Miſtreſs for the Battle:* But all this ought to be conceal'd from the Publick, leſt we ſhould ſeem to encourage Vice. I ſhall in ſhort give a Deſcription how a Patient may know his Degree of Infection, and how reaſonable it may be for him to make a ſerious Application in Seaſon.

A *Clap* is discover'd from the following Signs; a Pain and Scalding whilst they make Water; Matter of various Colours runs out continually; there is a Pain upon squeezing the Part; there's an Erection often in a Day; Ulcers in the *Urethra*; the *Penis* swells; is crooked especially upon Erection; they cannot stand close with their Thighs, because of the Pain of the *Penis*; Ulcers often *seize* on the *Glans* or *Prepuce*; all these Symptoms are Attendants upon an infectious Copulation: But whether this Matter Infecting be an *Acid* or an *Alcali*, I think is scarce worth while to enquire into, *much less is it to the Purpose to affirm with the* Garway *Scheme-Maker*, *Mr.* Tanner, *that an Alcali has changed its Nature into Acid*, which is a Leap Principles (if he thinks them such) never take, and a Piece of Philosophy, which is neither new nor old, and consequently not learnt Abroad nor at Home. I look upon this Quality to be *Acrimonious*, because we do indeed find many convincing Proofs of it; but to what *Species* of Acrimony 'tis referrible, I can tell this *Divine* 'tis not in his Province to enquire into; nor is it known, but from some Consequences, which are best judged of, from an Experience he is not Master of.

When

When the Infected have ſat patiently down under their Misfortune for ſome time, which they often do, if their Scalding of Urine or *Dyſury* be moderate; the Infection ſteals upon them, and produces other Symptoms about the Parts firſt charged with the venomous Particles; ſo that now not only the *Urethra*, the *Glans*, the *Prepuce*, and the *Penis*, are affected, but alſo the *Proſtate Glands*, the *Gallus Gallinaceus*, the *Teſticles*, the *preparing Veſſels*, the *Groin*, and the *Anus*, begin to ſuffer by their Proximity or Nearneſs, as will be made appear: For how otherwiſe happens it, that the Patients by a ſupine Neglect ſometimes never recover from a *Gleet* all their Lives after? I have endeavour'd in vain to cure *Gleets* of 20 Years ſtanding, which I am now wiſer than to attempt when I have examin'd them, as Experience has taught me to do; and know them by a certain Rule I have, to diſtinguiſh whether they are really incurable; which however, in others, I can cure, tho' of any Date.

A *Phymoſis* and *Paraphymoſis*, are Symptoms on the Prepuce; in the firſt, the Fore-Skin is ſo tumid, that it won't be brought behind the Nut; in the latter, it can't be brought forwards to cover the Nut;

Nut; they are moſtly watery Tumours, and call'd *Cryſtallines*, tho' I have ſeen them of another Species, and inclinable to a *Scirrhus*, particularly by Miſmanagement.

I think no one need be told, that the *Teſticles* are ſwell'd; but for their Inflammation we know it by a Tumour there, and a throbbing Pain, daily increaſing till it turns into an Impoſthume (if the Patient be fooliſh and wilful.)

The *Anus* is often beſet with Warts or other Scirrhous or Cancerous Tumours, as well as the *Glans* is with *Shankers*, and which are equally troubleſome and dangerous. The former are Tubercles, Excreſcences, or hard Tumours, which ſeize the Verge of the *Anus*, and are callous and hard to the Touch. The latter are hard Ulcers upon the *Prepuce* or *Glans*, which alſo are in the *Vagina*; and I have ſeen them as large as a Cheſnut: They who have the latter, can never be ſafe without the Grand Cure, becauſe they are Signs of a radicated *Lues*: And let the Continuance of the Infection be how ſmall ſoever; yet if theſe appear, it is a ſure Sign of certain Footing.

The

The *Groin* is attack'd with *Buboes*, which are a Critical Tumour and Inflammation, which tends often, or ought ſo to do, to an Abſceſs, and by breaking, carries off Part of the Venom out of the Body, and ſometimes the Whole, if artfully managed.

We have ſeen the Patients troubled with the *Hernia Varicoſa*, where the Veſſels are crowded with Humours, and their Subſtance is thicken'd and harden'd ſometimes ſo much, that there's no Poſſibility of reducing them to their uſual Size by the niceſt Management; for they will, all their Life after, have theſe Veſſels more turgid than uſual.

As ſoon as the Venom has left the Secret Parts, and is lick'd up into the Blood-Veſſels, then it circulates along with the Blood into all the Parts of the Body, and produces every Symptom producible by a vitiated Blood, ſuch as Pains, Puſtules, Ulcers, Itchings, Tetters, *&c.* for as the Acrimony, with which the Blood is tainted, makes the *Globules* of a Size which do not, in circulating, yield as it ought to do, for want of a due Elaſticity, they are apt to ſtick cloſe to the little Arteries or Fibres, which they cannot paſs thro'; and thus, according to their Degree of

Acri-

Acrimony, they either give us troublesome Sensations, which are often, in the beginning, not lasting; or at other times they are deeply engaged in the *Capillaries*; and the Blood being very much tainted or charged with Salts, Ulcers and such Symptoms are produced.

At last, when the Venom has been a long Sojourner in the Fluids, it begins to affect the Solids, and particularly the *Nerves* and *Bones*. This is a dismal Scene indeed, and many a Bill of Mortality is hid under the Name of a gentle Decay, and a Consumption, which had its Beginning in the Stews. Now *Convulsions*, *Consumptions*, *Palsies*, *Apoplexies*, then *Nodes*, *Caries*, *Spinæ Ventosæ*, the Falling of the *Os Palati*, and the Nose, and such melancholy Scenes are carrried on; and why all these and more, but because now we are crush'd with the Quantity of the Poison, as well as the Quality of it? For there is as much Difference between this last Degree and the first, as there is between the Effects of a Pound of diluted *Aqua-fortis*, and two Pounds of the most concentred Spirit of this same Acid, where the first may even be brought down to a Degree of being swallowed, whereas the latter destroys in a small Quantity.

I ſay not this to declare my Sentiments on the *Species* of Acrimony, but on the Difference of Quantity and Quality. To ſet about to explain to my Reader, the Manner how thoſe Accidents come on, would be perhaps to talk like a *Scholar*, more than a *Practitioner*; but my Aim is rather to be accounted the latter. However, that the Reader may have ſome Glympſe into the Nature of the Malady, I may venture to ſay, that it is ſafe in Diſeaſes to argue from the Effects to their Cauſe; and as Ulcerations do often concomitate the Venereal Diſeaſe, which yield upon certain Applications, we knowing the Nature of the Medicines applied, may give probable Conjectures at the Quality offending: In ſuch Caſes therefore we need only give a ſhort Catalogue of the Remedies in uſe for the Venereal Diſeaſe, and draw a Concluſion from thence concerning the Nature of it. The *Virus* communicated is taken off by Medicines of a contrary Quality; for this is the proper Characteriſtick of a Remedy, if in the Diſeaſe certain Medicines are adminiſtred which exaſperate it, we may ſafely conclude that theſe Medicines are of a like Nature with the Particles which gave

the first Rise to it. Therefore on the other hand, if certain Medicines are given or used which take off the Malady, we may equally conclude that these Remedies are of a contrary Nature to the Poison.

The Medicines usually given in this Disease are Mercurials, Guaiacum, Sassafras, China, Sarsa, Juniper, Zedoary, Antimonials, Volatile Salts, and Aromatick Oils: I speak of the Alteratives only or chiefly.

Now the Simples named are Drugs, consisting either of Volatile or fix'd Salts, or Oils: It cannot so safely be concluded on, that the Cause of the Disease is a *Corrosive Acid*, from the Relief receiv'd from smooth and oily Remedies, because these smooth Drugs do equally relieve Symptoms arising from a *Corrosive Alcali*, inasmuch as they imbibe the corrosive Particles of both alike: But it is a Demonstration that its Acrimony is *Acid*, when Volatile and fix'd Salts relieve the Symptoms of the Disease; because Experience convinces us, that these Salts are diametrically opposite to each other.

Nor can it be any Objection, at least of any Force, to say that some *Acid* Remedies are found to relieve some particular

cular Symptoms which retain to this Diſeaſe; ſince we all know ſome *Acid* Remedies to be contrary to other *Acids*, and are therefore known by Experience, our beſt and ſureſt Guide in Phyſical Matters, to be of a *Subalcaline Nature* in regard to the other *Acid*. Conſult Dr. *Grew on Mixtures*, and you will be agreeably inſtructed in this Affair. Moreover, in ſome Symptoms of this Diſeaſe, it is not worth the Diſpute whether an *Alcaline* or an *Acid* be apply'd, upon Condition that both be *Corroſive*; becauſe in *Fungus's* or *Callus's*, the Fibres are to be eroded or quite eat away. Now it is indifferent in this what *Cauſtick* is uſed, ſince a Correction of the Juices is not the Queſtion in hand, but a Conſumption of the Fibres; and as that is indiſcriminately done by either, it is the Operator's Buſineſs to effect it with the leaſt Trouble, and the leaſt Hazard.

I cannot tell whether any one who follows this Buſineſs, has better Pretenſions to it than myſelf, becauſe the Numbers I have had under my Care, have made me endeavour at proper Methods to relieve them and ſupport myſelf, and I thank God I have effected Both: *I am ſure then, I have no occaſion, like the*

Scheme-Maker, *in his Directions, to deſire any to draw up an Advertiſement, and ſay unknown to the Author, and they ſhall be refunded the Price of the Advertiſement, and ſhall have a Guinea for a Pair of Gloves for ſo doing*, becauſe this is an Effrontery not to be equal'd: For what poor Wretch having bought a dear Remedy, would not be glad to regain his loſt Money at any rate? And this is the Reaſon why ſo many Certificates appear in favour (as one would imagine) of the *Specifick Remedy*, when in Truth they are only *Claims* put in, to recover their Money ſunk in an uſeleſs Remedy; ſo that theſe poor Miſcreants (for ſuch theſe Claimants generally are) are repaid for *Huſh-Money and groſs Impoſitions:* Nay, we have known it advertiſed, that ſuch an one (who had been as dead as *Julius Cæſar* for above half a Year before) was recover'd by, *&c. Si populus vult decipi, decipiatur.*

But the Readers will be pleas'd to find here in the following Chapter, moſt of the Symptoms in ſuch Order as they invade them, that they may at one View know their Condition, and apply ſeriouſly for their Recovery.

CHAP.

CHAP. II.

Of the Symptoms.

FIRST then, *A Clap* or *Gonorrhœa Virulenta*, which the *French* call *Chaude-piſſe*, has generally a vaſt Heat of Urine attending it. I need not tell my Reader, that Ulcers in the whole Paſſage ſometimes cannot bear the ſharp Urine gliding over it, and grating it; and therefore till theſe Ulcers are ſome way benumm'd or cur'd, we find this Symptom ſeldom ceaſes entirely.

Shankers are hard and callous Ulcers on the *Glans*, or *Prepuce*, or both; which are ſometimes ſo large as to equal a Cheſnut, and give the Operator and Patient much Trouble, for that they muſt in ſome Caſes be cut away. I ſhall not ſay more here, only referr you to what I ſhall obſerve hereafter.

Bubo's: They are Inflammations on the *Groin*; 'tis a ſort of an After-game, and a piece of Good-luck; for 'tis much better

better this Part ſhould be ſeiz'd than the Internal ones; becauſe by Impoſtumating, the Humour is in great meaſure thrown out this way; which it could not, if it ſeiz'd on the *Viſcera*.

Inflam'd Teſticles: All Tumours are raiſed, becauſe more is brought to a Part than can be reconvey'd; and therefore when I name an Inflammation, I ſuppoſe ſome ſort of Obſtruction; and if any one throws into a *Diſtractile Syphon* a Quantity of Liquor by a Syringe, you will ſee it riſe and ſettle. Why ſwells it, but becauſe the Part is drawn up by the Quantity not paſſing on haſtily enough? And why ſettles it, but becauſe now it paſſes freely on?

Caruncles are known by piſſing in a double Stream, or an Obſtruction of making Water: They are fleſhy Excreſcences in the *Urethra*, (I have ſometimes known them at the Neck of the Bladder, and this is dangerous) ariſing from the ulcerated Parts turning *Fungous*; and at laſt this *Fungus* (from a peculiar Acrimony in the Humours) becomes even Scirrhous or Cancerous.

Strangu-

Stranguries are occasion'd by the Salts of the Urine pricking the ulcerated Parts, and thus corrugating and exasperating them; and as a sharp Instrument fails not to gall and irritate the Part 'tis fix'd in, this Humour in like manner, according to its Figure and Durity, fixes in some Corner of the ulcerated Part, and there galls till it is obtunded by the *Mucus* spew'd out of the *Glands* of the Urinary Passage. *Dysuries* and *Stranguries* differ by Degrees only; but both are a Sharpness and Heat of Urine.

Nocturnal Pains arise from the Heat of the Bed, which occasions a brisker Motion of the Fluids around the Body, and particularly on the Surface: If the Salts (which by this Heat are melted) be gentle, then such only feel a Tingling and Uneasiness on the Surface of the Skin; but if they are very sharp and corrosive, instead of tingling, they pinch us prodigiously, and bring on Pains.

Erosions of the Bones of the Palate. When the Humours have been suffer'd to lodge for a long Space of Time, without due Care, what Wonder if they corrode the Parts? For as this Ferment is of

such

such a Nature, as every day to grow more corrosive than other, we must naturally conclude, the longer it lodges on any Part, the more Mischief it does: Why then should we wonder at such a Disfiguration?

Nodes are hard Tumours on the Bones: However there are Degrees of them; for when they begin, they are softish, and are then term'd *Gumma's*; and, in the Head, *Talpa's* or *Topinaria's*; but when confirm'd, they are *Nodes* and *Exostoses*; they arise from the Lodgment of Humours on the Bones or near them, because some of these Tumours appear at first to be *Cystical*, and others seem to, and really do, grow on the Bones.

Phymosis, *Paraphymosis*. I have already taken Notice, that these are Faults on the *Prepuce*; and if the Patient's *Penis* is so fram'd, as always to be cover'd or uncover'd, these Accidents seize them; for the Symptom is but a Tumour diversify'd by this Structure.

Cordee, is a *French* Word, signifying a *String* or *Cord*; and what they call *Chaudepisse Cordee*, is a Clap with an Inflamma-

tion

tion on the *Penis*; but we never take it in any other Senſe, than when the *Frænum* is drawn downwards, and the Erection, which is troubleſome at this time, cords the *Penis* around, and on the ſide of the *Frænum*, with exquiſite Pain; ſo that as Erection is unavoidable, from numerous Cauſes and Irritations, therefore is alſo the Pain following it.

Scabs or *Blotches:* Theſe Eruptions are occaſion'd from the Humours ſtopt and confirm'd; and as an Acrimony may be wrapt up in groſs Particles, ſo this Viſcidity occaſions an Impediment to the Circulation in the ſmall Veſſels (which we call *Capillaries*): When they have reſted here ſome time, then their Acrimony begins to exert itſelf, and gradually inflames, throbs, and at laſt throws itſelf into the Surface of the Skin in Blotches and Scabs.

Diſorders from the Blood, and *Nervous Diſorders*. When the Venom has deſerted the *Genitalia*, it creeps gradually and inſenſibly into our Veſſels, and then corrupts all our Juices, and changes them into *Cauſtical ones*; and as the Blood ſoon corrupts the Spirits, ſo bad Blood ſoon

hurries on bad Spirits; therefore when the Blood is tainted, Crowds of Diſeaſes attend a Patient thus unfortunate, and they every Day more than other begin to look Pale and grow Lean, becauſe Nutrition is not rightly perform'd; for how ſhou'd a Body be nouriſh'd with Particles ſo *keen-edg'd*? How can they be apply'd with Advantage, when they are utter Enemies to it? How can they grow without lodging there firmly? And if they do lodge, inſtead of nouriſhing, they pare them off, and even grate the very Bowels unmercifully. Thus Diſeaſes grow up inſtead of Nutriment, and at laſt *jam ſeges eſt ubi Troja fuit*; nothing but Deſtruction and Death attend them. I ſhrink at the Thoughts of the innumerable Diſaſters ſpringing up from the Blood tainted: But when I conſider that the Venom is deeper ſunk, even ſo far as into the Nerves themſelves, I am yet more in Concern for ſuch Neglects; and I muſt here acquaint my Reader, that 'tis not the poor Patients are always only to be blam'd for theſe unhappy Caſes; for I have known many who have run the Gauntlet of Phyſick under ignorant Hands, who have lock'd the Door, and ſuffer'd the Thief to ravage within;

within; or even have ſometimes over-done the Matter, and ignorantly thrown their Patients into Nervous Diſtempers.

Laſtly, I muſt obſerve to you, that tho' theſe are the *Common Symptoms*, yet they are far from being the Complement, ſince Defluxions on the Throat, Coughs, Night-Sweats, Laſſitudes, Pains of the Back, Leanneſs, Conſumptions, Fiſſures any where, Falling off of the Nails, Cruſtineſs on the Skin, *Polypus's*, Piles, a cancerous Thruſh, Tetters on the Privities, Melancholies, Madneſſes, the *Alopecia* or Falling off of the Hair, *Ficus*, *Condylomata*, *Mariſcæ* on the *Anus* and its Verge; nay, we have ſeen ſome Hypochondriacal, others Phrenetick; we have often obſerv'd *Hecticks*, *Vertigo's*, Dropſies, Deafneſs, Blindneſs, Palſies, *Epilepſies*, all ſorts of Breakings out, *Dyſenteries*, Fluxes, *Diabetes*; and in ſhort, there is hardly any Diſtemper which this malignant and acrimonious Humour does not bring on; and the Reaſon I think is pretty plain, becauſe all theſe Diſtempers are only ſome Share or Parcel of this Humour, fix'd on ſome one or more of the *Viſcera* or Parts; which ſettling there, frets and exaſperates the *Parenchy-*

ma of the Part ſeized, and either raiſes Exulcerations, Evacuations, Commotions, Tumours, Eruptions, *Caries*, and many ſuch Diſorders; or its *Tenacity* blocks up the Paſſages, and then it raiſes all Diſorders which take their Riſe from Obſtructions; and then the Parts are not irradiated by the Spirits; whereupon Fallings off of the Hair, Palſies, *Gutta Serena's*, and thouſands of other Diſtempers follow, which I neither am at Leiſure to nominate, nor cou'd they be comprehended within a moderate Compaſs; *Mille modis morimur.*

CHAP. III.

Of the Prognoſticks.

THAT ſuch whoſe Hands this little Pamphlet may fall into, may conceive their Diſorder ſomewhat more readily, I ſhall annex ſome ſhort Prognoſticks on their Condition.

As to ſuch who are ſeiz'd with the various Symptoms of a *Gonorrhœa*, or other

other Diſorders about the *Genitals*; unleſs their Blood have been violently tainted before with ſharp Humours; if the Diſorder be freſh and newly received, they recover with good Management very readily; and I cannot but be ſurprized to meet with ſo many in this City, who have labour'd under common Symptoms, eaſily to be remedied; and yet ſuch hath been their Misfortune, that they have ſtalk'd thro' ſome Courſes of Phyſick; they have taken *Pills*, *Bolus's* and *Electuaries*, *Elixirs*, *Specificks*, and the Lord knows what, to no manner of purpoſe, but to plunge them deeper in the Mire; and in ſhort, they have by theſe promiſing Medicines been ſeemingly cured of their *Clap*, and have barter'd it for a *Pox*. This I ſpeak upon Experience; and I muſt frankly own, I know not how it ſhould fall out otherwiſe, if we ſpeak of ſuch Medicines as are commonly diſpoſed of at *Toyſhops*; becauſe the Patient is given to underſtand his Caſe by a falſe Glimmer, he proceeds by *ſtated Directions, the Boot is ready made, and it muſt fit every Man's Leg.* Now how ridiculous this Procedure is, will be evident upon taking a View of one Caſe I ſhall remark; Some People

will

will have *Shankers* in a confirm'd Pox, and which the common Methods of *Turpentine* and *Mercury*, mention'd by Doctor *Cockburn*, will relieve indeed; but your Case becomes desperate thereby; for the *common Operator* (I talk not of Artists) will glory of a Victory, when his Enemy has retreated; whereas in Truth his Disappearance is for no other End but to proceed by Sap, and undermine the Foundation; for the Blood being charg'd with a large Stock of sharp and corroding Humours, enters the Bones, and lurks in them, and either produces *Caries*, *Spinæ Ventosæ*, or *Nodes*; and then, to their Cost, they take hasty Measures, and come to the Grand Cure: However, if it be an old *Gonorrhœa*, or the Blood be much tainted, (as it is in some *Scorbutick Persons*) then indeed more than ordinary Care is required, and the Patient must be narrowly look'd after, and the Cure varies according to the Degree; which it is impossible to describe, and as impossible to be relieved by Medicines prepared by *Bopeep Doctors*, who never appear, nor are solicitous about the Matter, so long as their *Specificks* sell well; and who, if they did appear, know nothing of the Case, unless perhaps what is

in

in their Pamphlets, which they have rifled *Blegny*, *Cockburn*, or ſome Writer or *Pampheteer* for; ſuch are the Reverſe of what is requir'd; for inſtead of knowing more than their Writings contain, they know leſs, and even nothing of the Matter, and therefore lie conceal'd: Such Patients then muſt appear at the Bar, and take the Phyſician or Surgeon as Judges in the Caſe, muſt by their Aſſiſtance prove the Degree of Damages, and the Aſſailant muſt be oblig'd to quit Coſts: In ſhort, they muſt apply to their Deliverer ſeriouſly, and follow his Directions obſequiouſly.

If the firſt Degree of this Venom requires ſuch an exquiſite Care, what muſt the more rooted Degrees of it demand? Surely double and treble. I don't know that the Husbandman would truſt his Brutes to the Hazard of a Receipt, but the Experienc'd Cow-Doctor muſt be call'd in to remedy the Diſeaſe; and how it comes that we truſt to thoſe Toy-ſhop *Medicaſters*, who pretend to Receipts only, (as many there be in this City) is amazing! I muſt then obſerve to you, that if in this Degree the Excretory Ducts of the *Proſtatæ* (or *Glands* in the Urinary Paſſage, which ſpew out upon Occaſion,

a glutinous, colourleſs Subſtance) are eroded or eaten away by the Acrimony of the Humours; or alſo, if farther, the Mouths of the *Veſiculæ Seminales* (or long Tortuous Membranes which hold the true Seed) are gnawn by this ſame Humour; then there remains a perpetual *Flux*, and ſometimes 'tis ſo large as to evacuate large Quantities, and emaciate the Patients, and brings on the *Tabes Dorſalis*, and kills them. However, we know not how to remedy theſe Evils, and therefore they lead an uncomfortable Life, becauſe they are incurable; we have ſeen ſuch a Caſe in the Diſſection of an executed Perſon: In the ſame manner is it with Women whoſe *Lacunæ* are eroden; for then whatever *Ichor* arrives at their Mouths, is thrown out, and this cannot be remedied, as we have known ſome who have undergone ſeveral Salivations for this purpoſe, without any Advantage; and if the Undertaker had been skilful or honeſt, there wou'd have been no need to have treated theſe unhappy Mortals ſo roughly, ſince the Diſorder was Local; and if Application would not ſucceed, nothing wou'd.

Some Symptoms indeed are wholſome; ſo a *Bubo* appearing, if it ſuppurate, the Venom

Venom is eradicated, and the Patient recovers with little Trouble; nay, and ſometimes a *Gonorrhœa* runs off in warmer Climes, but ſeldom or never with us in theſe cold Climates. In fine, the Conſequences of this Diſeaſe bear a Proportion with the Continuance of it, with the Intemperies of the Blood and Juices, with the Nature of the Soil, and with the Number of the Symptoms: For the freſher a *Pox* or a *Gonorrhœa* are, the eaſier are they remedied. Phlegmatick Perſons, as well as Spleneticks, are hard to be cured.

Whoever are ſickly or weak, undergo great Hazards, becauſe the Evacuations neceſſary to carry off a great Part of this Diſeaſe, cannot in theſe Circumſtances be made uſe of.

A *Pox*, accompany'd with a Hoarſeneſs, is hard to be taken off, and in a more particular manner if it is attended with a *Caries* of the Bones. Every *Pox* or *Gonorrhœa* is dangerous, eſpecially when accompany'd with a Tumour of the *Penis* and a Stench of the Matter, and if Ulcers or Caruncles are ſprung up in the *Urethra*.

Ulcers of the Palate, Noſe or Throat, are more eaſily cured than thoſe in the *Anus*; becauſe the latter turn *Sinuous*, and the Humours are ſharp and cachectical,

cal, ſo that there can remain no Hopes but in the laſt Remedy; whereas the former are often ſuperficial only, and then they may be remedied by external Applications: However it is confeſſed, that the former in our Clime are alſo very hard to eradicate, particularly if the Bones be any way eroded.

Leanneſs and Barrenneſs do often follow this Malady; the firſt, becauſe there can be no Nouriſhment without a Balſamick Blood; and the latter, becauſe the Vigour of the Parts is injur'd; but I am not fully at liberty to give in all the Reaſons I could produce on this Head; I ſhall only obſerve to you, that whenever the Phyſician is apprized of the Method of Cure in the nice Manner he ought, I can by Experience aſſure my Reader, there is no Hazard in the latter Point.

Women are leſs afflicted with this Diſeaſe than Men, becauſe their Monthly Purgations free them of a great many noxious Humours which are retain'd in Men.

Altho' moſt Phyſicians have told us, that the Seaſons, particularly the Winter, have an Effect upon Bodies thus diſeaſed; yet I could never find this true, farther than

than that Medicines may be better given in warm Weather than in cold; but how eaſily this is remedied, need not be mentioned.

The ſevereſt Relick of a virulent *Gonorrhœa* is a ſimple one: Here many Remedies are try'd without Succeſs, if any Part of the *Veru Montanum* be eroded; which is undoubtedly the Caſe, where Glutinous Remedies, Stypticks, and even Injections, have fail'd of Succeſs: In this Circumſtance I would adviſe the Patients to the continued and unwearied taking of certain Specificks, which I forbear to name in theſe Papers; by the Uſe of which I have prevented that Species of Conſumption called the *Tabes Dorſalis*, whoſe dire Effects are Loſs of Virility, and of all that follows from thence; of which enough: And ſince it is not in our Power to remedy this Symptom, yet it is fully in our Power to prevent any ill Conſequence from it.

Aſthmas are dangerous in the Venereal Diſeaſe; becauſe if once the corroſive Particles are lodged in any principal *Viſcera*, it is almoſt impoſſible to eradicate them, by reaſon of the Tenderneſs of the Parts, and the quick Advances of the Ravages made in thoſe Parts.

Fluxes do often follow an inveterate Pox; and as they are the laſt Symptom in moſt Diſeaſes, ſo here, where the Acrimony is ſo manifeſtly corroſive, what Illsdo they not bode?

I have been more particular in this Edition, concerning the Events of this Diſtemper; becauſe I find ſome foolhardy enough to ſlight the Diſeaſe, and let it run dangerous Lengths, before they apply themſelves; and are too apt afterwards to excuſe their own Neglects, and calumniate the Phyſician or Surgeon, if they are not in as perfect a State of Health as they were before Infection: But how unjuſt will this Calumny appear to any Perſon who conſiders, that it is not in the Power of a Phyſician to frame new Parts, nor ſo to eradicate all the Taint of an inveterate Pox in ſuch Perſons, but that Scurvies may in certain Conſtitutions ſprout up annually for their whole Lives after. However this Comfort may be promis'd them, that if they apply to Judicious Men, they may lead a Life tolerably eaſy, free from dangerous Maladies, and ſpin it out to Length enough, if they are contented ſo to do; but they muſt avoid all Extremes both in Diet and Medicine.

Where the Blood is tainted, more Care is to be taken of this Leaven; for if neglected, the Diſeaſe grows apace, and enters the ſolid Parts, and deſtroys us. Hence due Regard had to the Taint, (of what *Species* cannot be determin'd) but by Sight of the Patient, by proper and *Specifical Remedies*, the Humour is either corrected, or elſe thrown off by proper Emunctories, and the Patient may be relieved in a Month's time with Safety, Privacy and Pleaſure.

Where the laſt Degree is, then any one, the leaſt skill'd, may know the Fate of theſe Unfortunates; for what Trouble attends not rotten Bones, ſome of which are curable, others not at all? For ſuch, which are hollow, and contain a *Medullar* Subſtance, will, with Time and Care, exfoliate and be cured; but if the *porous Bones* are tainted, (unleſs very ſuperficially ſo) ſuch as the *Rotula*, the *Patella*, the *Articulations*, the *Os Calcaneum*, and thoſe ſpungy Bones thereabouts, the *Scull*, and in ſhort ſuch Bones as are *Cellular*; how can we remedy them?

No, ye Unfortunate, deceive not yourſelves with vain and promiſing Airs, the *Operators* flatter ye with; all this is *Grimace*,

mace, and poor Policy, level'd at enriching themſelves with your Spoil; but if you applied in Rags to them, their true Judgment (if they have any) wou'd appear.

CHAP IV.

Of the Cure.

IT would be in vain to ſplit this Diſeaſe into ſo many trifling Diviſions, and thus to make the Cure of it appear intricate; for in Truth, the Parts are only affected around the Genitals, or the Juices and the Solids are alſo tainted; ſo that whoever conſiders what I have ſaid, will ſoon be Maſter of the Methods.

When it ſeizes in the Form of a *Gonorrhœa*, the Methods of Cure are the following; the Ulcer of the *Urethra* indicates *Deterſion* and *Cleanſing*: When this is ſufficiently done, we muſt incarn; or if this be look'd on as too tedious, we muſt cicatrize: But I look upon it as neceſſary to be ſomewhat ſlow in this laſt Indication; and tho' this Caution has been

been ſlighted by many Perſons, yet how many Complaints do we daily meet with in this City, for want of ſuch a Piece of Juſtice? I can't but acknowledge there are ſhort Methods of Curing, and eaſier than what we ordinarily find uſed by many unskilful Men: But as each Man ſeems to glory in his own Skill in this Point, I believe it would be in vain to endeavour to perſuade ſome Men to proceed in a manner more Chriſtian than they do: If they wou'd obey me, I do aſſure them, I wou'd avoid all dangerous Proceedings: I wou'd not with one *uſe Sublimate Water* internally, and chouſe the too Credulous out of their Money, (for ſo I muſt call ſelling *a Pint of this Water for a Guinea*) and at the ſame time endanger their Perſons; for who does not know that *Sublimate* is rank Poiſon? I only deſire the Reader wou'd conſult the moſt learned Dr. *Mead* on Poiſons upon this Head, and ſee what Conſequences attend the giving of it internally; and I believe I ſhall terrify all honeſt Men from adminiſtring it, and ſuch as value their Lives from taking it; and that what is advanced by me here, is not ſaid *Gratis*, or out of Envy, the Reader ſhall be convinc'd of, by his Senſes,

before

before I leave this Diſcourſe. Nor wou'd I with others give *Mercurius Vitæ*, *Green Precipitate*, and many more ſuch dangerous Medicines, daily too much uſed in this Town; for in Truth, there is no Neceſſity, that Perſons to be cured of one Evil, ſhould be thrown headlong into others, equally hazardous; and therefore I avoid (as much as in me lies) all ſuch *Devious* Practices. Theſe are the *Harſh* Methods uſed in Town; and I ſhould be ſorry that Men of Learning, and ſuppoſed Knowledge, ſhould be found Guilty of what I condemn: I wiſh they may not, for their Patients Sakes as well as their own; they muſt expect the fatal Conſequences which follow ſuch Uſage, and which they need not be advertiſed of, as knowing them as well as myſelf.

It would be too frivolous to tell the World of giving *Cathartick*s, ſuch as *Roſin of Jalap*, *Mercurius Dulcis*, *Pilulæ Cochiæ*, *Rudii*, *Ruffi*, *Roſin of Scammony*, or *Guaiacum*, and ſuch like; it would be trifling to tell you, that Balſams of *Capivi*, *Peru*, of *Chili*, of *Gilead*, are uſeful to cleanſe the ulcerated Part, or that Tinctures made of theſe Roſins or Balſams, are much uſed by ſome as won-

wonderful Secrets to cure and chouſe the Vulgar withal: I ſhall not trouble my Reader to deſcant upon *Os Sepiæ*, *Crocus Martis aſtringens*, *Sal Martis*, *Saccharum Saturni*, *Oleum Martis per deliquium*, *boil'd Turpentine*, ſome faſhionable Jellies, which are fram'd for the completing the Cure; nor ſhall I mention the Injections of *Mercurius Dulcis*, with *Mel Roſarum* and *Plantane Water*, nor of *Decoctions of Roſes*, *Balauſtines*, *Vitriol*, *Saccharum Saturni*, and ſuch like; becauſe they are to be met with in every Writer on this Diſtemper: But I ſhall frankly own ſome have been modeſt, but many more have exceeded all Bounds on this Head: I ſhall for my part ſtudy to ſay ſo little on this Point, that may offend Modeſty, or prove an *Incentive*, that I hope I ſhall have nothing to anſwer for, either to a *Superior Being*, or to any Court of Judicature; and I wiſh ſome, who otherwiſe want not Parts enough to diſtinguiſh themſelves, would avoid this Ungentleman, as well as Unchriſtian Demeanour. But *Quo ſemel eſt imbuta recens ſervabit odorem Teſta diu.*

As for *Shankers*, I ſhall not mention how ſome uſe *Cathereticks*, in order to eradicate them along with the general

Methods to keep us ſafe. I know in *Caruncles*, the common Methods are Eradication by Cathereticks on Candles. *Bubo's* we all know are treated with Suppurative Pultiſes or Plaiſters, or the Lancet is at laſt made uſe of: We know that Heat of Urine is allay'd by *Mucilages*, by *Sal Prunellæ*, by Opiates, and other Methods of Cure. I need not trouble my Reader to inculcate to him, that *Cordees* are alleviated by *Anodyne Fotus's* or *Cataplaſms*: I ſhall, I ſay, lay aſide all theſe Conſiderations, they having been canvaſſed by all Writers even to a Loathing: But I ſhall make the Reader obſerve, that my Method is eaſy and ſafe, quick and certain; and tho' I can brag as well as others of my *Electuary* and its Salutiferous Effects, becauſe I have try'd it above theſe twenty Years ſucceſsfully; yet I am not altogether ſo vain nor empirical as to tell the World this Medicine does never fail; only I ſhall inform you and deſire you to give an attentive Ear to what I am about to ſay, *That if I manage this* Electuarium Mirabile *myſelf, I will give any Perſon who tries it, double the Value, if it ever fail to cure the firſt Degree of Infection:* And as for the reſt, I do ſuppoſe they will apply, otherwiſe I

do faithfully assure them, 'tis hardly possible for them to recover truly; for some unfortunate Reliques will sooner or later grasp them too close ever to be rid of their Misfortune, unless by a skilful Hand. I would then have my Readers to observe, that what is possible to be done by one Medicine, this *Electuary* will effect; it evacuates the Humours gently; it revulses from the Part affected, and draws it off; it obtunds the acrimonious Humour; it destroys the Venom in Bud, and all this with Ease, Safety, and Consistence with the nicest Reputation. But as every one cries up his own Secret and *Nostrum*, 'tis natural for them to decry other Mens, and therefore has this undergone that Fate; but how unjustly, appears, because it has surviv'd all Envy, and will continue so to do; *and so it is with all excellent things: If they are Good, nothing will sink their Credit; if they are Bad, nothing will make them continue.*

In case the Venom has tainted the Blood, and begins to produce such Symptoms as I have already named, an easy Matter will not complete the Cure; for then we must have Recourse to more potent Remedies, either to *evacuate roundly*, or to *alter strongly*; and even this Method

will not anſwer, without Regard had to the Parts too much injur'd by the Venom deep ſunk into them.

However, my Reader muſt not miſapprehend me in ſaying we muſt cure by *ſtrong Remedies*; for I can underſtand the Word *ſtrong* in no other Senſe than this, to wit, that the Cure muſt be proportion'd to the Quantity of Poiſon in our Veins, and Strength in our Patients; and if the *former* be in ſuch a Quantity as cannot be eradicated without exhauſting the *latter*; who does not ſee the Danger? However, even then, there are certain Ways and Means unknown to common Managers, to be made uſe of, in order to retrieve the Patients, as I may ſay *Invitâ Minervâ*; which I know myſelf under no Obligation to diſcover; only ſuch as fall into my Management, and under my Care, will experience even in this Deſperate Caſe Safety and Comfort, not to be met with from many: For to eradicate a Diſeaſe, is to be well inſtructed in the Cauſes of that Diſeaſe by Reaſon and Experience: Neither alone can be ſufficient. By the Cauſes, I mean all that is contain'd within our Bowels and Veſſels. Now how is it poſſible for Perſons not train'd up in the Inveſtigation

of

of the Cauſes, to lay Symptoms related together, ſo as to help his Imagination to conceive what is the individual Ailment? I am ſure, without this it is impoſſible for any Phyſician to aſſert what his Patient ails; and then I am ſure he muſt be at a loſs to know what to do or how to relieve; and as there is an infinite Number of Symptoms which direct us in the Methods we are to purſue, who but the Experienced can venture to act with Safety? and who but the Ignorant will ſuffer under ill Managers? I hope this little Treatiſe will plead for my Knowledge, whilſt my Succeſs will ſecure Patients from my Enemies.

Some will expect me in this Place to make Excurſions, and to diſcourſe to them of the Method of Cure by *Diaphoreticks*: I know in Foreign Countries, they are very fond of this Method of Cure; and in the *Indies*, from whence we received this venomous Diſeaſe, they entirely depend on this Method; nay, and even in this Town ſome boaſt of their Royal Decoctions, or *Diet Drinks*, and order them to be taken plentifully, and religiouſly confine you to Roaſt Meat and dry Victuals, and poor Fare at Night, and order their Drinks to be ſwallow'd

down

down in ſuch a plentiful manner, that they either evaporate your Blood to a Cinder and a *Caput Mortuum*, or at leaſt endanger a Fever: We hear of all that have the good Fortune to eſcape; but who ſink? they are perfectly huſh in that. Others believe it neceſſary in theſe laſt Extremities, to have recourſe to violent Vomits, and never think the Diſeas'd can be too roughly treated for the ſake of the Diſeaſe: *Feſtina lentè* is my *Motto*; I am for making no more Haſte than good Speed; for 'tis very uſual to hear theſe Pretenders murder at once the *Diſeaſe* and the *Diſeaſed*: I wou'd indeed murder the Diſeaſe, and can do it; but they kill two Birds with one Stone.

I am not a little ſurprized to find ſome of Opinion, that *Salivations* are little to the purpoſe, if not rais'd by *Unction*, and unleſs they ſpit two or three Quarts in a Day! *Quiſque ſenſu ſuo abundet.* I ſhall not endeavour to diſpoſſeſs theſe Gentlemen of the good Opinion they have of themſelves, for I know no body that loves to be contradicted; but I ſhall only ſay, I act otherwiſe, and gain my Point; and if they always do ſo, I wiſh them much Joy; I ſhou'd not ſubmitt

myſelf

myſelf to ſuch a rude Management, neither ſhall my Patients be treated ſo roughly. The Diſeaſe does not vaniſh, nor is it reputed to do ſo, unleſs the *Symptoms diſappear*; and whenever they do, for a ſmall Space of Time we need go no farther; (what is done over and above, is at the Expence of their Lives or Spirits); for what will do this, will leave a ſmall Relique at moſt, which may be otherwiſe handled by a Perſon moderately skill'd; and in this I appeal to all ſuch as practiſe Phyſick or Surgery.

I am ſenſible that Phyſicians have inculcated to us, that a Diſeaſe is cured when its principal Symptoms diſappear; and if the Cure, be it by what Method you pleaſe to name, be firm, the Symptoms will never return. I can't ſay but we may ſometimes be deceiv'd in this Affair; but the Patients ought to know their Perſon, that he be a Man of Integrity as well as of Knowledge: For Inſtance, a ſlight Salivation may take off the *Ulcers*, *Shankers*, the *Scabs*, the *Nocturnal Pains*, the *virulent Running*: And ſhould an unskilful Manager ceaſe here, they would all return with equal Violence in a certain Space of Time; whereas it is ſufficient to a skilful Perſon

that

that they diſappear: The Reſidue of the Cure is eaſily completed without much Torture.

I don't know that *Diureticks* will avail at all in this rooted Degree, becauſe they are too weak for the Diſeaſe; and beſides, Dr. *Freind* has lately obſerv'd in his Treatiſe of Fevers, that they ſeldom anſwer our Ends, ſaying, *p.* 154, *Ita ut hodie hæc Medicinæ pars quæ ad urinas provocandas pertinet, ſit omnium maximè manca.*

This Obſervation is true as to Fact; and Dr. *Paxton* in his *Tentamen*, p. 117, firſt aſſerted it in the following Words; "Diureticks or Medicines cauſing and "increaſing Urine, may be obſerv'd to "be very uncertain in their Operations; "For Urine being a Separation from the "Blood, whatſoever cauſes or increaſes "that, muſt ſome way ſo diſpoſe or "alter the Blood itſelf, that ſuch of its "Parts may be more plentifully ſecern'd "by the Kidneys, and from thence flow "into the Bladder. And the Blood being "ſo very different in ſeveral Bodies, it "can be no Wonder if the ſame Reme-"dy does not at all times, in all Bodies, "produce the ſame Effect; as it is moſt "evident it doth not, that being often a

"pow-

" powerful Diuretick in one, that in " another will diſcover no ſuch Virtue. " For, perhaps, modeſtly and nicely " ſpeaking, Art hath not as yet prepar'd " any one Medicine, that will at all " Times, to all Perſons, prove itſelf a " nice and real Diuretick.

Some I know there are, that pretend to evacuate by *Saliva* for two or three Hours in a Day, and no more; and thus are for carrying off, by Degrees, the venomous Particles out of the Blood; and if ſo, why may not this be done by *Tobacco* as well as *Mercury?* For in ſuch a Caſe theſe enter not the Blood: But this is bare Shuffle and Pretence; and if they neglect at the ſame time other advantageous Methods, 'tis an Impoſition upon their Patients.

Of late, Injections have been ſtrongly advertiſed, and ſpeciouſly ſupported by a *rational Account* given of their manner of Operating. Were this Gentleman aſſured that there is no more Venom in a *Venereal* than a common Ulcer, I cou'd very readily come into his Meaſures; and he ought in good Manners to ſuppoſe it no great Difficulty for us to find out *Deterſive*, *Digeſtive*, *Incarning*, and *Cicatrizing Injections*, equally proper as his

are; but alas! we find to our Sorrow that a Venereal Ulcer may juſtly be termed *univerſal*, whilſt a common Ulcer remains *particular*. That I may be comprehended the more eaſily, the Reader muſt excuſe a ſmall Digreſſion. I ſay, that Venereal Ulcers are of ſuch a Nature, that if they are neglected, they ſpread and branch into a thouſand dangerous Maladies, each of which is ſufficient to hurry us headlong into the Grave, whilſt a common Ulcer is often uſed as an Iſſue to drain noxious Humours out of the Body: And altho' the Methods of Cure in either be univocal, as to the external Application, yet it is not always neceſſary to make uſe of Internals in common Ulcers, becauſe they are void of a *diffuſive Virulency*, which never is wanting in Venereal Ulcers: From whence it is very eaſy to ſee, that a Perſon may be freed of a *Gonorrhœa* with the Uſe of pompous Injections, and yet be under a Neceſſity of undergoing a ſevere Salivation to cure him of a Pox in leſs than half a Year. I am at no Loſs to produce a freſh Inſtance in this very Caſe; but that I am under Obligations of Silence from the Nature of the thing. Examples are Convictions; but I hope the

Rea-

Reader will conſult his Reaſon, and give Credit to what I affirm. I cannot deny that Injections may be uſeful in the firſt Moments of the Infection; but how few are there who make ſo early an Application? In fine, Waſhing off ſome virulent Salts from the *Urethra* and *proſtate Glands*, with a Lotion gently *Corroſive*, is a Deterſive; with Smooth and Emollients, is Digeſtion; and with Stypticks, is Cicatrization: But when you have thus artificially cured this Sore in the Paſſage, and have Reaſon to hope you are freed from the *Gonorrhœa*, the Virulency being very active, taints your Blood and Juices, lies unheeded and unregarded in your Veins, and attacks your Bones. Hence it is we ſee ſo many Scenes of Miſery in this *Metropolis*, ſo many Perſons diſabled from their lawful Employments, ſo much Barrenneſs in Women, who wou'd otherwiſe have been teeming Dames, but that their Spouſes have had heretofore Misfortunes in the Management of themſelves. For my own part, I have had Opportunities to ſee too much of this kind, and I heartily wiſh there were no Occaſion to complain; but ſo long as all who undertake to remedy this Diſeaſe, have not the good Fortune

to be well inſtructed in the Methods of Cure, I think I may ſafely affirm, that ſo long ſhall we hear Complaints.

If *Preventives* ſucceed, Temporal Puniſhment, for the Sin of Impurity, is in good part cut off. This Advertiſer, I muſt confeſs, is the moſt whimſical of any I have yet read of: The *Venetian* Courtezans are ſaid indeed to have a Method of communicating with Mankind with Impunity, and there are ſeveral Ways recounted in Phyſical Authors to guard the Combatants from any Danger; but to publiſh the Method, ſmells ſo rank of the *Libertine* and *Free-Thinker*, that it ought not to be allowed in a Chriſtian Country: And pray, good Sir, from whence had you this mighty *Arcanum?* Who are you? Whence come you? Where are your Teſtimonies? I doubt you import Goods that are Contraband. Surely, Sir, you adviſe all Mankind, which is prompt enough of itſelf to offend, to uſe *Machinery*, and to fight in *Armour*. If ſo, you are not the *Inventor*, but the *Propagator* of Wickedneſs: But we ſee how ſome Perſons aim to deceive the World.

In ſhort, I ſhall only add this one Obſervation, which may lead a skilful Perſon

ſon through the whole Range of the Diſeaſe; and it is this, *That in what manner ſoever the Diſeaſe has been found to be critically carried off in warmer Countries, we may lawfully conclude that Medicines which are found by Experience to force this ſame Separation by Art, will do the ſame Feats*; and as it has been found that the *Indians* did it by Sweating, (in the Sun, Bagnio's, or by any other Means) ſo we find in *England*, that Sweating goes a great way to complete the Work: For I could never yet find that *Sweats* alone, in our Clime, did totally carry off the Venereal *Virus*: And it is reaſonable to think that our Fluids are not attenuated to that Pitch as theirs are in hotter Regions; that the actimonious Particles are lodged in a more viſcous Vehicle; and that a *Diaphoreſis* cannot carry off ſo much of it, nor ſo freely, without much greater Inconveniences than the Advantages receiv'd; for Fevers are frequently ſubſequent to great Sweats, and therefore in *England* we dare not follow this Method ſo much as the Foreigners may, becauſe our Pores ſeem to be much leſs than theirs, and our Juices leſs fluid; ſo that we give Purgatives more frequently, and Foreigners *Diaphoreticks*: And moreover,

as

as *Mercurials* are the beſt Remedies yet known in this Malady, and as they work moſtly by the Mouth or *Anus*; ſo it ſeems to favour our Clime the moſt, and the Diſeaſe is not more certainly eradicated in any Country than it is with us. And as it has been found that Stools do carry off this Diſtemper, ſo may we imitate and ape Nature, and order *Cathartick*s to carry off the Load; after which however, a tedious Courſe ought to back this Method, in order to correct the Reliques, leſt it ſprout again.

A Courſe of Alteratives, juſtly proportion'd in Doſe and Quality to the Quantity of *Virus* in the Blood and the reigning Acrimony, the Symptoms ſubſiſting, give us plain Hints that we muſt continue our Endeavours in changing the Maſs of Blood into ſtill a better Condition than it is now under; and the Species of Acrimony is often detected from the Nature of the Symptoms, which give us Light how to vary our Preſcriptions: But as I have not Room nor Leiſure to inſert all Particulars concerning this Affair, the Reader muſt content himſelf with the Sketch given.

How the Salivation was found to cure this Diſeaſe, is too late an Invention to

be forgot; and therefore I ſhall proceed, the Hiſtory of Phyſick not being my Deſign at this Juncture.

As for the Symptoms which retain to the ſeveral Degrees of this virulent Diſeaſe, it behoves a Phyſician to follow the eaſieſt and ſureſt Methods to root them ſoon out; and as I have acquir'd by Experience ſeveral ſhort Methods to effect this, I ſhall give my Reader to underſtand their Names and Uſes; and I ſhall leave it to the Patient to let the World know, how truly they are *Noſtrums* and *Specificks in their kind.*

Electuarium Mirabile; or, the *Admirable Electuary.* I have already ſpoke of the Virtues of this Electuary; and as too much cannot be ſaid in its Praiſe, the Reader muſt excuſe a little Excurſion on a favourite Medicine; *Favourite*, becauſe I admire its Efficacy and Palatableneſs: To be pleaſant and grateful to the Taſte only, wou'd be a ſmall Recommendation indeed; but when I ſay 'tis ſucceſsful in the firſt Degree of this Diſeaſe, and ſeldom, if ever, fails of anſwering its Ends, as thouſands can ſufficiently teſtify, I think I need not add much farther, than to adviſe the Unfortunate to conſult their Safety,

Safety, in having ſpeedy Recourſe to ſuch an admirable Remedy in time.

Pilulæ Antivenereæ, or my *Antivenereal Pills.* I never found it adviſable to proceed to Stronger Medicines, when I was ſure Weaker wou'd ſerve the turn; nor, *vice versâ*, is it convenient to dally with Weak ones, where Stronger are plainly required. When therefore People have neglected themſelves, or have been treated ignorantly till their Caſe becomes *Deſperate*, I have recourſe to theſe admirable Pills and Powder following, which together will not fail to root out the very minuteſt Atoms of the Poiſon with Certainty and Safety; the Truth of which (upon Trial) the Afflicted will ſoon be convinced of; as many I have already had under my Hands have largely experienced.

Pulvis Specificus; or, my *Specifick Powder.* This Powder is an Alterative, and great Sweetner of the Blood and Juices, corrects efficaciouſly and ſuddenly all Taints proceeding from this Poiſon, and indeed is almoſt univerſal in its Virtues, as ſeveral Phyſicians, who however uſe it too ſparingly, can teſtify in their Practice;

tice; but my Method of using it being different to theirs, I reap greater Benefit by it in proportion; as daily Experience sufficiently proves.

Electuarium Balsamicum; or, my *Balsamick Electuary*. This is a Medicine which is extremely cleansing and healing; therefore particularly adapted to Gleets, after the Cure of the Venom; for it often happens, that after all the Venom is carried off, yet the Vessels are not closed, tho' good and wholsome Methods have been used; then this *Electuary*, with my *Balsamick Pills*, will effectually succeed; as also in all Gleets and Seminal Weaknesses, whether occasion'd from ill cured *Claps*, Self-Pollutions, or other Disorders, if neither the *Veru Montanum*, or the Mouths of the Excretory Ducts of the *Paraſtatæ* be quite eaten away; for then 'tis impossible to be done, because 'tis impossible to frame new Parts; *Experto crede*.

Linimentum Carcinomatosum; or, the *Liniment for Shankers*. This *Liniment* is design'd chiefly for *Shankers*, to eradicate them gently, and yet not in such a manner that they shall retreat into the Blood, as

is the Misfortune of many Medicines of this kind. As for *Directions for its Uſe, I muſt beg that the Perſons who may be concern'd will not expect any here; for I don't think it ſafe to give general Directions, but will expect to ſee, and then direct; and indeed I would be glad to know, how any Patient can be Judge of the Degree of his Misfortune; for this is the Reſult of Experience and Practice only.* How many young Phyſicians are there, that know very well what is to be done with a Patient; that is, they know what Remedy is to be uſed; but how many of them are at a ſtand to give the ſufficient Quantity, and to time it? This is too evident, and is in Practice granted by the whole World, when they reject young Phyſicians (tho' Relations) for old ones, whom they truſt with their Lives, *by reaſon of their* Experience.

Emplaſtrum Bubonicum; or, the *Plaiſter for Bubo's:* The Part is ſhav'd, and this is applied; it draws the Part to a Head in a little time; ſo that 'tis eaſy to digeſt and perform all other Intentions afterwards. I need not cry this Plaiſter up, becauſe I am ſure of its Effects, which are quick and certain; for otherwiſe the

Venom might retreat into the Blood, and give the Operator a great deal of Trouble, in obliging him to a long Courſe, which this Method wou'd ſoon accompliſh.

Pulvis Anti-Dyſuricus; or, the *Powder againſt Heat of Urine*, (or *Spirit.*) I have contrived this Medicine for the Palate, ſo that it may be given in Powder or Drops: 'Tis one of the beſt Remedies known for this Sharpneſs of Water, which is one of the moſt troubleſome Symptoms that reigns in this Diſeaſe; *it relieves it by a ſort of Enchantment*, by allaying the Pungency of the Humour, and correcting it ſpecifically: It may be taken in Wine, or any other Liquor which pleaſes the Patient beſt.

Emplaſtrum, and *Unguentum Anti-Tophicum*; or, the *Plaiſter and Unguent for Nodes.* Theſe two Medicines will utterly extirpate or diſſipate theſe Nodes; which, if they be ſuffer'd to continue, at laſt produce *Caries* of the Bones, and endanger Loſs of Life; the one is milder than the other, that if one ſhould not operate, the other will effectually do it; for as it is ſometimes more rooted

than at another, weaker or ſtronger Remedies are required. When Patients have neglected themſelves till Nodes ſeize them, they *muſt apply ſeriouſly for their Recovery, or they are in the high Road to be loſt.*

Pulvis Extirpans; or, the *Powder againſt a Caruncle.* Whatever is uſed againſt a *Caruncle*, ought ſo to be moderated, as not to inflame the *Urethra*; for ſo many fatal *Symptoms* might be brought on, that a total Suppreſſion of Urine might enſue. This Powder is exactly proportion'd, and performs its Work gently, yet certainly.

Mr. *Wiſeman*'s Powder and Plaiſter, uſed according to his Directions, are pretty effectual: He takes the Bark of *Pomegranate* powder'd two Drams, *Allum* powder'd a Scruple, *Ceruſs* one Ounce; as alſo he takes Red *Precipitate* one Ounce, *Lapis Calaminaris* three Drams, *Vitriol* calcin'd one Dram and a half, Plaiſter *Diacalciteos* ſix Ounces; mix and make a Plaiſter; which melted, is to be dawb'd over a Wax Candle: However, if it is not large, there are other Methods not ſo tedious nor ſo tormenting; which

which it is enough to have hinted at in this ſmall Book.

Many other Medicines I have for other Symptoms, experienced over and over ſucceſsfully, which I will not trouble my Reader withal at this Juncture; only I ſhall add, that *Method is the true Secret in Phyſick*; and whoever does not ſtudy it, can have no Glory due to him; for nothing of Invention can iſſue from Ignorance, and Chance will never make a Man wiſe, no more than a World will be fram'd out of Atoms jumbled together, as *Lucretius* wildly teaches.

It might be eaſy for me to proceed in the ordinary Road, and bring my *Vouchers* for the Cures I have done; but in the firſt place, I find none but *poor and worthleſs Wretches* who are willing to ſubſcribe to this Method, and ſuch I don't value; for, depend upon it, I will not (like the *Scheme-Maker*) hire any to own the Favours I have done them; and *for the Better ſort*, they hate even the Sight of a Perſon who has done them Service in this kind, leſt they ſhou'd diſcover, to their Prejudice, what they have too much in their Power; and indeed I ſhould

ſhould be of the ſame Opinion myſelf. And in the next place, this is done to perſuade the World of the Goodneſs of a Medicine which they have good Reaſon to doubt of: And laſtly, when theſe Gentlemen do us the Favour to balance the Account of *ſuch as Live and Die* under their Methods, then would it be reaſonable for the World to follow them, according to their Deſerts; but they publiſh an Advertiſement now and then, certifying what vaſt Advantage ſuch and ſuch have received by their *Specificks* and *Elixirs*; but not one Word is ſaid of ſuch as have died by the Neglect of better Remedies; *Culpas eorum tegit terra.* I ſhall then ſuperſede all Diſcoveries of this kind, they being odious, and fit for nothing but to bring Reproach upon the *Phyſician* and the poor Patient; and ſhall proceed to a ſhort Account of *Specificks*, as they are called, and demonſtrate to Mankind the Extortion and Folly of theſe Pretenders and Pretences. Indeed I muſt own, they are properly *Specificks* in their Senſe; for as each Remedy is worth what it brings in of Profit, ſo they who get the moſt Money for their *Specificks*, fancy themſelves the wiſeſt Men, and

their

their *Specificks* must be very Valuable; but I can't ſtoop to this Senſe of the Word, as will appear in the next Chapter.

CHAP. V.

Of Specificks, *and the Abuſe of the Name, and how it covers Ignorance and a Cheat.*

I Can't but admire the Aſſurance of ſome Men, who adapt the Signification of *Specificks* to their own Remedies, and who cry up a paltry Mixture for the fineſt Invention in the World; but my Wonder ceaſes, when I conſider the Matter in a different Light; for Profit will make a Man of *no Honour* ſay and do any thing; and as Mr. *Dryden* ſays, *there is a certain ſort of Impudence in Want.*

An Aſſertion or Authority in Phyſick, is like the Quotient in Diviſion; no one is ſure 'tis true, till it is proved; and I muſt in a particular manner let the World know,

know, that as no Perſon who is a Party concern'd, ought to be admitted as a Witneſs in that particular Caſe; therefore Dr. *Ch-b-l-n* ſharing in the Profits as he did, was an improper Judge of the Vertues of his *Specifick*, becauſe the World could expect nothing from him but *Elogiums*, and extravagant Expreſſions to cry up this *Specifick Panacæa:* (as he term'd it, a learned Blunder!) But I may be anſwer'd, Why then ſo many Advertiſements, if this were not a Real *Specifick?* In the firſt place, too much is pretended to be proved by theſe Advertiſers; for by them, it muſt be the Dew of Heaven! and this Gentleman has been ſtamp'd on purpoſe by the Almighty Power, to find out a Secret in a Profeſſion he is entirely ignorant of; (as a Reward, think we, for having dropt his Prieſtly Function?)

In the next place, I have already told my Reader, that theſe Advertiſements are hired at the Expence of a Guinea to the Advertiſer, and at the Price of the Advertiſement alſo, as his printed Directions, which I have by me, do teſtify.

As for a *Specifick*, I muſt acquaint my Reader, that I own no infinite Power in any

any natural Body, and therefore I cannot ſuppoſe any Material Acts beyond its Sphere; and particularly an Evacuating Remedy has little Leiſure to correct any Humours, but hurries them off in the Poſition they are under; and what comes firſt to the Glands of the Guts, is firſt evacuated, and according to the Violence more or leſs is emptied; therefore if this wonderful *Specifick* ſtays in the Guts ſome few Hours, it is ſoon carried off again; and I muſt obſerve, that it is Phyſically impoſſible that five or ſix Grains of any Medicine can produce thoſe wonderful Alterations in the Blood and Juices ſo tainted; and therefore this is a ridiculous and an abſolute *Chouſe*, to delude poor Unfortunate People, and at once to empty their Bodies and their Purſes.

But this Gentleman returns to his Argument, and tells me, *Sir! Remark this Necklace! 'tis but a ſorry one to look at!* Nothing better for Teeth and Childbed-Women! Sir, 'tis an *appended* Remedy! only acts by *Effluvia!* weighs but a few Grains itſelf; and yet, Sir, take my Word for't, it makes ſuch Alterations in the Fluids, and ſuch Impreſſions on the So-

lids, that, as the late worthy Dr. *Ch--l-n* ſaid again, 'tis ſurprizing. I ſhall not now give myſelf any Trouble about this Affair, only if its *Effluvia* were ſo ſtrong as to make a *Wind-Mill* go, I cou'd tell him how to make it turn to good Advantage; and I can, in the mean while, tell the World, that if he pleas'd to affirm it would do ſo, he had then a Father to cite for his Aſſertion.

But I have deſign'd this Chapter to convince the World how they are impoſed on by ſome deſigning Men.

First then I muſt inform you, that there is a Specifick Water made uſe of in Town for a *Gonorrhœa*: I had the Opportunity of ſome brought to me by a Patient to make Trial of it; and accordingly, upon dropping the common Fluids into it, it plainly appear'd by the Precipitates to be *Mercury Sublimate*, diſſolved in Water; the Danger of which (given internally) I have hinted at before.

Some time after, the *Scheme-Maker's Specifick Elixir* came to my Hands in the ſame manner, (as it often has ſince, together with his *Specifick Electuary*:) I judged

judged it by the Taſte to be *Gum Guaiacum* and *Turpentine*, diſſolv'd in Spirit of Wine; and accordingly I evaporated the Spirit of Wine by Flame, and found the Spirit to be ſtrongly rectify'd, for it evaporated entirely; and in the Spoon I found a Gum of the Colour of *Gum Guaiacum*, which, upon Taſte, I found to be the very Gum; but, upon farther Trial, I believed I taſted *Camphire* in it; upon which I poured ſome of the Tincture into Water, and, upon pouring in a little *Oil of Vitriol*, the Water grew vehemently hot, and immediately at the Top ſwam the *Camphire*, which taſted and ſmelt very ſtrong.

The other *Grand Specifick* which he has made ſuch a Noiſe about alſo, and to ſo little Purpoſe, (unleſs to deceive People of their Money and Health) is nothing but ſome of the common Purgatives; ſuch as *Roſin* of *Jalap*, *Coloquintida*, and *Scammony*, together with *Mer. Dul.* made up with *Balſam* of *Capivi*; and the Danger of giving Balſam *Capivi* in the beginning of the Cure of Claps, Thouſands, in this City, have experienc'd to their Ruin. But my Aim here is this; Is it not a vile Impoſition in

these Men, to dispose of such common, useless, and dangerous Medicines, at so extravagant a Rate? For neither of these can cost above 6 *l.* or 8 *d.* at most, and a *Guinea* is paid for them at Toy-Shops or elsewhere; upon which I say again, with the late worthy Dr. *Chamberlen*, 'tis very surprizing.

But what is most surprizing to me, is, that Men of Sense and Worth should hazard their Lives and Fortunes, by buying Medicines at such Places, and taking them, without knowing the *Author*, or where to apply to him upon the greatest Emergency.

Besides, is *Gum Guaiacum*, *Camphire*, and *Spirit of Wine*, such a mighty Secret? or the *Purgative* before hinted, with *Balsam Capivi*? No, they are such common things, that a Boy of Twelve Months Skill in *Pharmacy* would be asham'd to boast of.

As to my own *Nostrums*, I will give them up to any one to make what Trials they please upon them; they cannot find them out: But what is it to the Purpose if they shou'd? I can only say, I depend upon Judgment, and will not scruple to alter my Medicines as I see Occasion; for no Medicine can fit every Age

and

and Conſtitution, nor is every Perſon that applies alike affected; ſome have a *Bubo* and a *Running* at the ſame time; others, a *Bubo* only: Some have a Sharpneſs of Water, and ſome have none: Some have watery *Gleets*, others a ropy one: Some have *Shankers*, others a *Carunele:* Some have Strength enough, and Venom enough, to bear and require ſtrong and potent Remedies; others have a great deal of Poiſon in their Veins, and little Strength: And therefore, I ſay, 'tis ridiculous and prepoſterous to expoſe to Sale an *Univerſal Remedy*, which is ſuppos'd to be adapted to every one's Age and Conſtitution; or to pretend to cure this Diſeaſe by a Doſe or two of any Medicine, as ſome, who have more Aſſurance than Skill, frequently do; or with a *Chymical Bolus*, which is as much as if we ſhould ſay with a *Simple Compound*, and that is full as proper as to ſay a long Circle, or a *Circular Quadrangle*,

------Sibi convenientia finge, Scriptor.

Since my writing this Sketch of the *Venereal Diſeaſe*, Practice has furniſh'd me

me with Cases enough to convince Readers how little I am out in my Conjectures as to the *Practical Scheme*, which I shall briefly insert for their sakes.

A young Gentleman having contracted a Venereal Taint, and being asham'd to reveal his Case, bought at Mrs. *Garraway's* the *Specifick Electuary* and *Elixir*, at the Price of Two Guineas; and tho' the Directions were follow'd, yet he was oblig'd to apply to me for Assistance, having a *Shanker* and a *Phymosis* upon him, and was cured by my *Antivenereal Pills* and *Specifick Powders*, along with Applications proper for his *Shanker*, &c.

NB. 'Twas by the Favour of this Gentleman I had the *Electuary* and *Elixir* I made Trials on.

Another Gentleman, who had been treated by a Surgeon, and who had us'd the *Specifick* likewise, but was cured by neither; upon the Perusal of this Treatise apply'd to me for Assistance: He was afflicted with a watery *Gleet*, a Pain at the Root of his *Penis*, and a continual Heat along the *Urethra*: He was treated with my *Elect. Mirab.* my *Spirit Anti-*

dysu-

me.

dyſuricus, and *Balſamick Pills*, and effectually cured.

Upon the Peruſal of my Book, I was conſulted by a Gentleman of near fifty, who labour'd under a conſtant *Gleet*, and had been ſo afflicted for many Years. I cured him with my *Balſamick Electuary* and my *Balſamick Pills*; upon which we were both of us well ſatisfy'd.

A young Man brought upon himſelf, by *Onaniſm*, a Weakneſs in the Seminals; after he had perus'd my Book, he apply'd, and was perfectly cured by my *Balſamick Electuary* and *Pills*.

A Captain of a Ship (under the *Hatches*) bought the *Specifick*, and injected according to Directions; the Succeſs was a Tranſlation of the Matter to the *Scrotum*, which ſwell'd prodigiouſly: Upon reading this Pamphlet, he apply'd, and with my *Antivenereal Pills* and *Powders*, and proper Topicks to the *Scrotum*, in a Month's time we diſmiſs'd each other well ſatisfy'd.

Whilſt this was writing, a Gentleman's Servant apply'd, who ſome time ſince had got the Diſtemper, and bought a Guinea Pot of the *Specifick*, which ſoon ſtopt his Running: He laid out Three

Guineas

Guineas more, to confirm the Cure, (as he term'd it;) but about Three Months after, he found he had only barter'd his CLAP for a POX. Such Effects the *Balsam Capivi* will most certainly have when improperly administer'd, as Thousands many Years ago have dearly experienc'd.

The *Specifick* had the following Consequences attending their Use, a Stoppage of the *Gleet*, a Pain in the Back, a Weakness in the Thighs, a Scalding in the Urine, with fleshy Filaments in it. Upon buying *this Book*, he confess'd his Mistake in believing a Possibility of Universal Remedies. In five Weeks I dismiss'd him, recover'd perfectly.

Since the Publication of the Third Edition, the following Remarkables have happen'd from the Use of the *Specifick*; one took Thirty Pots of it, Part of the Bone of his Nose grew Carious, which fell off with blowing it: The Surprize was great, and he apply'd himself to me, (having seen my Book) and was by proper Care perfectly restor'd to his Health, and the Nose sav'd without being disfigur'd. A Second spent Five

Guineas

Guineas on the *Specifick*, but yet was uncur'd; whom I reſtor'd perfectly. This Perſon gave me to underſtand, how he had unwarily abuſed a Friend of his by the *Specifick*; for, ſaid he, I recommended it as an admirable Medicine, that had cur'd me, (as I then unfortunately believ'd) ſo he purchas'd it; but his Friend found his Remedy in the *Hoſpital* only. A Third had his Running ſtopt by one Pot: After three Months he marry'd to a very vertuous Woman, and preſently appear'd a Shanker, a Bubo, and a Swelling of his Teſticles; a ſufficient Caution for all ſorts of People not to truſt to theſe pernicious Medicines in Caſes of this Nature. His Wife ſhar'd of the Misfortune, and both were oblig'd to apply for Remedy. Theſe Hiſtories can be well atteſted, and I wiſh 'twere all the Injury could be prov'd againſt its Uſe. But ſuch is the Efficacy of Noiſe and Vouchers, that the World will try, and then repent; Wiſdom is valu'd by its high-pric'd Purchaſe.

Theſe few Caſes I was willing to inſert, in order to convince the World of the Inefficacy of Univerſal Remedies;

more I did not, becauſe we are hardly at full Liberty to ſay all we wou'd.

I hope I ſhall not be look'd on as idle in my Generation, if I to theſe few Additions ſubjoin a little Digreſſion on the *Gout*, and diſcover to the World a new Colluſion in this Particular.

This Diſorder has ſo much hitherto baffled the Endeavours of Phyſicians, that they now at laſt begin to conclude it an uſeleſs Enquiry to ſeek after its Cure; and he would only convince the World of a ſuperlative Folly, who wou'd go about to reaſon Perſons into an Opinion of *Specificks* for it, at a time when the moſt diligent Practitioners give over ſuch Attempts. Has it ever been known that any Remedy was yet found out to prevent a Return of the *Gout*, nay, which did not throw it upon the Bowels, and lay the Foundation for a Neſt of Diſtempers? Jumbles of Words which *Pretenders* join together, without Coherence or Deſign, may cajole an unthinking Multitude into a Belief, that ſomething Extraordinary is attempted, becauſe ſomewhat Extraordinary is promis'd; but the Men of Brains never judge

judge of a Book by its *ſpecious Title*; thoſe ſtale Tricks are out of Date.

The Learned talk of *Indigeſtions* and *Periods*, which are never reliev'd; they ſpeak of *Natural Tendencies* which they only can further; and the Unlearned prate of *Specificks* cook'd up for the Market. The Difference then is, that the Modeſty of the former inſtructs us how cautiouſly we ought to proceed in managing Human Carcaſſes; but the latter aim at the Diſpoſal of their Wares. In ſhort, the Atoms plainly diſcoverable by the latter, are never to be ſeen (even with the niceſt Glaſſes yet fram'd) by the former; but the *Auri ſacra fames* makes Men very clear-ſighted; for this the World runs unfathomable Lengths. A *Sydenham*, a *Liſter*, a *Muſgrave*, a *Wintringham*, muſt ſink under the Weight of the *New Syſtem*; and were this to hold true in all the Branches of *Sciences*, Learning muſt yield to Ignorance, and Religion to Enthuſiaſm. Happy Age! in which the BLIND only hit the Mark!

I ſhall in few Words diſpatch this Affair under Conſideration; but firſt, it will not be deem'd from the Purpoſe to

relate the Particulars of the Trials made on the *Anti-arthritick Specifick Tincture*: One of the Purchasers made me a Present of a little of this pretended *Specifick*, which I try'd in the following manner: I exhal'd, as also in another Trial deflagrated, the Spirit of Wine, which I found rectified, and there was left behind a Gum, which I found to be *Gum Guaiaci*. I pour'd some of the Tincture into Water, and it immediately turn'd Milky, as all Gummous Bodies are observ'd to do: To this Milky Liquor I pour'd on *Ol. Vitriol.* and presently the *Camphire* emerg'd, and smelt then very strong. This Trial having answer'd, and being like the *Specifick* mention'd in the *Practical Scheme*, I try'd that again in the same manner as mention'd, and all the Difference I found was, that in this latter *Specifick* there was more *Camphire*, and in the *Venereal Specifick* there was more *Gum Guaiaci*; but in both of them I find a little Scammony; so that the Difference between these two *Specificks* is plainly no other, comparatively speaking, than *Beer and Ale*, and *Ale and Beer*,

Is

Is it poſſible then for Colluſion to run higher than in this pretending Scribbler! Can he believe the World is grown ſo credulous, that he may impoſe any frivolous Change upon them for wonderful Secrets? Or does he believe it is ſo Ignorant or Idle, as to take all he affirms upon Truſt? No, theſe Banters are not like to be ſwallow'd down, nor ſucceed much longer; nor ſhall I ceaſe in every following Edition to expoſe all ſuch vain Pretenſions to the Publick.

To add ſome Reaſoning upon the Point, I muſt remark to you what have been the ſtanding Opinions concerning this Diſeaſe. Dr *Sydenham*, and moſt Authors before and after him, have given it in as their common Sentiments, that the Humour reſting in the Joints, is ſuch as cannot freely paſs the Glands, and the other minute Paſſages adjacent; and the Wiſer of the Faculty have added, that this Humour is ſo noxious, that it cannot be ſafely tranſlated from thence into the Blood again. If then nothing can effectually put a ſtop to the Humours being thrown upon the Joints; and I think we may ſafely enough affirm, that nothing has hitherto been diſ-

diſcover'd which has had this Effect; I muſt then neceſſarily conclude, that it is not ſafe to apply any thing externally, which will throw this Humour back again into the Blood. Now what is any *Tincture* apply'd externally, but diſperſing this Humour, and throwing it upon the Bowels? but ſhou'd it not do this, 'tis not owing to the Care of this *Prater*. Let it not be any farther affirm'd ſo boldly, how many are cured of this Diſtemper; but let them tell the Story half a Year hence; let them then give us an Account whether they are not afflicted again and again, and then we ſhall be able to judge of its Efficacy.

I cannot diſown that Dr. *Sydenham*'s Method of giving Bitters is uſeful to attenuate the Juices, and to evacuate a ſhare of them by the Pores; but neither he, nor any other ſince him, have ever affirm'd that *Returns of the Gout* were for ever prevented by ſuch Medicines: And yet a Perſon without Skill on Human Bodies, or in the Practice, ſhall ſet up to be an *Æſculapius!* 'tis to me ſurprizing, both becauſe of the Ignorance of the Pretender, and the known Impoſſibility of the thing to be done.

It

It were however Folly to deny that Fitts of the Gout may be ſtaved off for a conſiderable time, or that their Violence may be ſo abated, that Gouty Perſons may live with ſome Comfort, and enjoy the *Gout* and *Health* together, as I may juſtly ſay.

This Secret is worth the Gouty Perſon's while; and if my Subject were not foreign to the Buſineſs, I could deſcend to ſome ſurprizing Particulars, which I have no room to mention here; therefore I will defer this Head till a more convenient Opportunity, to communicate my Thoughts to the Publick, and let them ſee how willing as well as capable I am to ſerve them. But if the World is reſolv'd to favour the aforeſaid Impoſitions, 'tis their own Choice, not Want of Diſcovery in me.

Thus, *my dear Readers*, have I for your Sakes ſaid much in a little Compaſs: I have, it is true, decry'd ſome Mens Practices, but I hope I have done it with good Manners and Decency; and as Mens Lives and Health lie at ſtake, I could hardly ſay leſs. I am not however inſinuating that I alone poſſeſs Secrets for this Diſeaſe, which other Men have

have not; no, I admire and kiſs the Feet of the *Learned Body of Phyſick* in this City: I cannot enough praiſe the Induſtry and Ingenuity of our *Body of Surgeons* in this great *Metropolis*, who of late Years have outdone thoſe *Monſieurs*, who carry too much Sway even yet; but how deſervedly, they only know, who are skill'd in this Noble Art: Thoſe Gentlemen being regular in their Proceedings, I allow them all that they can requeſt of me; and I hope they will alſo allow me ſome Competency of Knowledge in this one Point, in which I have labour'd ſo long with Succeſs, as will appear to any conſidering Perſon; for 'tis odds but he that applies to one Diſtemper only, ſhall diſcover ſomewhat Particular, which another who has not a Patient in a quarter of a Year has no Opportunity to do. And this, *dear Reader*, I hope, to your Comfort, is my Caſe.

From my Houſe, at the Golden-Ball *and* Lamp *in* Bow Church-yard, *in* Cheapſide.

POST-

POSTSCRIPT.

IF after all that hath been ſaid, there be any who thro' Baſhfulneſs, or any other Reaſon, will not appear themſelves, let ſuch ſend a true State of their Caſe in Writing, and they ſhall have proper Remedies ſent 'em; but no Letters will be anſwer'd, either in Town, or from the Country, unleſs ſuch as bring Orders for Medicines; and *Money* is expected on the Delivery of them.

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MVSEVM BRITANNICVM